A 2006 Guide to Connecticut Sugarhouses



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Maple Syrup Producers Association of Connecticut, Inc. and the Connecticut Department of Agriculture Marketing Division



Connecticut Maple Syrup Is the Best Tasting You'll Find Anywhere

It won't be long when plumes of steam and smoke will rise from evaporators in hundreds of sugarhouses all across Connecticut. This annual rite of spring is eagerly looked forward to by local sugarmakers and their many loyal customers.

The traditional maple sugaring season in Connecticut extends from early February until late March, depending greatly on the weather. Freezing nights and warm, sunny days are necessary to provide good sap yields.

Maple producers, including the ones listed in this brochure, welcome individuals and parents with children during the sugaring season. You may watch the whole process of how sap is gathered and boiled, and smell the hot steam rising off the evaporator.

Be sure to call the sugarhouse ahead of time to see if sap is being boiled into syrup and sold. Besides selling syrup during the sugaring season, this and other maple products may be purchased at many sugarhouses throughout the year.

The Maple Syrup Producers Association of Connecticut, Inc. holds informational meetings in January and November, and publishes a newsletter called "Drop in the Bucket." For more information contact: Chuck Drake, 28 Marshall Street, Windsor, CT 06095 Tel: 860-688-1718.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY

STAMFORD MUSEUM AND NATURE CENTER

39 Scofieldtown Rd., Stamford, CT 06903 203-322-1646

Stamford Museum sugaring season runs February through March 18. Classes are open to school groups during the week. Public drop-ins are welcome. Special event day is Sunday, March 5, 2006, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Historic and modern methods of sugaring will be exhibited and demonstrated. Call for more information.

WARRUP'S FARM

Bill Hill

John Read Rd., West Redding, CT 06896 203-938-9403

Visit the log cabin sugarhouse for syrup making demonstrations the first 3 weekends in March, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Syrup and maple sugar candy available for sale. Visit the barnyard animals. School groups scheduled Tuesday-Friday. Organic farm produce, pumpkins, and flowers available in season.

HARTFORD COUNTY

ARLOW'S SUGAR SHACK

Arlow and Doris Case 101 Bushy Hill Rd., Granby, CT 06036 860-653-3270

Pure Maple Syrup sold in all size containers. Visitors welcome. Sap buckets and tanks for sale, also firewood.

LAMOTHE'S SUGAR HOUSE

The Lamothe Family 89 Stone Rd., Burlington, CT 06013 860-675-5043

e-mail: lamothes.sugar.house@snet.net web site: www.lamothesugarhouse.com

Maple Syrup, Maple Candy, Maple Cream, Maple Taffy, Granulated Maple Sugar, Maple Sugar & Spice, Savory Maple Sugar & Spice, Maple Coated Nuts and assorted maple gifts. Maple Syrup Equipment, Golden Retriever pups and rabbits. Open year round: Monday-Thursday 10-6 p.m., Friday-Saturday 10-5 p.m., Sundays 12-5 p.m. See maple syrup being made on Saturday and Sundays 1-5 p.m. from mid February to the end of March. Mail order. Master Card and Visa accepted.

LEONARD'S SUGARHOUSE

Raymond Leonard, Ir. P.O. Box 316, 555 Cherry Brook Rd., North Canton, CT 06059

860-693-8514

Maple syrup year round. Sugarhouse opens (Feb.-April call for boiling times). Sugarhouse tours.

NORTHWEST PARK SUGARHOUSE

145 Lang Rd., Windsor, CT 06095

860-285-1886

Maple Syrup. The Sugarhouse, accessible to handicapped, provides weekday group programs and weekend open house activities during February and March. Please call for program schedule or visit our web site www.northwestpark.org.

LITCHFIELD COUNTY

BROOKSIDE FARM II

Kay Carroll and Mark Harran 79 East Chestnut Hill Rd., Litchfield, CT 06759 860-567-3805 or 860-567-3890

Open for visits mid-February through March. Maple syrup sold year round. Please call ahead.

BROTHERS AND SONS SUGARHOUSE

The Schoonmaker Family

Farm Location: 998 Saw Mill Hill Rd.,

Torrington, CT 06790

860-489-2719

Mailing Addr: 998 Saw Mill Hill Rd., Winsted, CT 06098 Maple Syrup in all sizes, maple products, maple gift tins and gift baskets. We ship. Open year-round. Watch syrup being made during February and March. Free informational tours. Sugarhouse is accessible to the handicapped. Groups welcome. Please phone ahead.

COOLWATER SUGARHOUSE

Great Mountain Forest Corp., Windrow Rd., Norfolk, CT 06058

860-542-5422

Sugarhouse open in season. Please call ahead. Maple Syrup sales all year.

DUTTON'S SUGARHOUSE

The Dutton Family

28 Sunny Ridge Rd., Washington, CT 06793 860-868-0345

Visitors may watch sap collection and syrup being made during February and March. Groups always welcome. Please call ahead.

GREAT BROOK SUGARHOUSE

Mark Mankin

140 Park Lane, Route 202, New Milford, CT 06776 860-354-0047

Mailing Address: 50 East Street, New Milford, CT 06776 Operated by The Youth Agency, the Sugarhouse is open to the public and syrup is sold year round. Educational tours of

the sugaring operation are available. Call for info and availability. Open house weekends, which include displays of early sugaring techniques, are held during March. Please call ahead for dates and time.

LAURELBROOK FARM

Robert and Peter Jacquier 390 Norfolk Rd. & Route 44, East Canaan, 06024 860-824-7529

Maple Syrup. Open all year. Please phone ahead.

KASULAITIS FARM AND SUGARHOUSE

Ray Kasulaitis and Diane Janes 69 Goose Green Rd., Barkhamsted, CT 06063 860-379-8787

Maple Syrup and Maple Products. Open 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sunday. See syrup being made in mid-February to the end of March. Please phone ahead. Maple syrup sold yearround.

THREE POND MEADOW FARM INC.

Bill and Pat Gerner

240 Ramstein Rd., New Hartford, CT 06057 860-482-3628

e-mail: KLG1@aol.com

Making syrup from February through March. Please call for viewing time. Syrup available year round at the farm or via e-mail.

WOODBURY SUGARSHED

Lou and Carol Berecz & Sons

41 Washington Rd., On Route 47, Woodbury, CT 06798 203-263-4550

Sugarhouse open to the public. Saturdays and Sundays from February 28 through March 28 for maple syrup demonstration hours 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Open daily year round. Please phone ahead.

WEST HILL SUGARHOUSE

Tim Mandel, Dick Selinga, Jack Trumbull 525 West Hill Rd., New Hartford, CT 06057 860-379-9672 or 860-379-7312

Maple syrup for sale year round. Sugarhouse open during the season. Small groups welcome. Please call ahead.

NEW HAVEN COUNTY

BROOKSVALE PARK SUGAR SHACK

542 Brooksvale Ave., Hamden, CT 06518

203-287-2669 www.brooksvale.org

Located off Route 10 near the Hamden/Cheshire line, Brooksvale Park is operated by Hamden Parks & Recreation. The primary use of the sugar shack is to provide educational programs for Hamden 4th grade classes and school groups from surrounding towns. Visitors are welcome to stop by the sugar shack when it is in operation, usually late Feb. to mid-March. Programs, which include a tour of the sugaring operation, are available to the public. Call the Park Ranger's office for dates and registration.

KETTLETOWN SUGARHOUSE

Aaron Lewis 104 Nelson Rd., Southbury, CT 06488 203-264-9241

Maple syrup for sale. Open on weekends. Please call for availability and tours.

MAPLE GROVE FARM

Buster Scranton

3424 Durham Rd. (Route 77), Guilford, CT 06437 203-457-1304 or 203-457-0168

We are located 2.1 miles North of Rte. 80 in Guilford. We have a wood fired evaporator. Syrup, cream and candy sold during the season (mid Feb.-mid March). Syrup sales year round as supply permits. Please call ahead.

POND HILL FARM

Bill Wallace

900 Clintonville Rd., Wallingford, CT 06492

203-981-0900

Maple syrup available year-round. Visit our post and beam sugarhouse adjoining Connecticut's oldest brick gambrel farmhouse (John Barton, 1756).

The sugarhouse is open in-season from mid-February through March. Please call ahead for hours and boiling times.

WAYNE'S SUGARHOUSE

Wayne and Dana Juniver 89 Cedar Lake Rd., North Branford, CT 06471 203-488-3549

Visitors welcome on weekends (mid February through March) to see maple syrup being made. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please call ahead. Maple syrup for sale year round.

NEW LONDON COUNTY

BUREAU'S SUGARHOUSE

Donald and Patricia Bureau and Boys 60 Rowland Rd., Old Lyme, CT 06371 860-434-5787

Web site: www.maplekettlekorn.com

Maple Syrup, Maple Sugar, Maple Cream, Maple Jelly, Maple Vinegar and Maple Kettle Korn Popcorn. Open all year. Visitors and school groups welcome.

OWENECO FARMS SUGAR SHACK

John Drum and Frank Grabber 2067 Exeter Rd. (Route 207), Lebanon, CT 06249 860-642-7364 Maple Syrup. Open mid February through March.

TOLLAND COUNTY

ANNUAL HEBRON MAPLE FESTIVAL

Held annually the second weekend in March. (March 11th & 12th, 2006 and March 10th & 11th, 2007) - Self tours to the following Hebron Sugarhouses: Hope Valley, Wenzel, Woody Acres & Winding Brook. See CT Maple Syrup being made. Enjoy Sugar-on Snow; Maple baked goods, Pancake breakfast, plus much more. It is a weekend for family enjoyment. For information call 860-228-1110 or 860-228-0246 or 860-649-0841 or www.hebronmaplefest.com

BRADWAY'S SUGARHOUSE

Donald and Karen Bradway Bradway Rd., Stafford Springs, CT 06076 860-684-7112 or 860-684-6876 Maple Syrup for sale year round. Please call ahead. Visitors welcome.

HURST FARM SUGAR HOUSE

The Hurst Family 746 East St., Andover, CT 06232 860-646-6536

Come visit our newly constructed post and beam sugarhouse on our 36 acre farm. While at Hurst Farm stroll through our old-fashion Country Store that is stocked full of our own gourmet products. Maple syrup and maple products, local honey, jams and jellies, relishes, herbs and spices. Gift baskets made with all of our products. Sugarhouse opens to the public in season - call for hours. Farm is open year round with something for every season. Store and sugarhouse are handicapped accessible. Please call for schedule of other seasons.

WINDHAM COUNTY

BATS OF BEDLAM MAPLE FARM

Bob and Pat Dubos 101 Bedlam Rd., Chaplin, CT 06235 860-455-9200

Email: bob dubos@charter.net

Our maple syrup, maple cream and maple candy are available at the Willimantic Food Co-op, Champlion's General Store, Wild Scallion Market, the UCONN Co-op, the Coventry Farmer's Market and at the sugarhouse. Visitors are welcome. Please phone ahead.

MAPLE FACTS



• The sugar maple and black maple are the most common trees tapped to produce maple syrup. A tree should be from 30 to 40 years old before tapping and more than 10 inches in diameter.

- As a rule of thumb, a tree can give as much as a gallon of sap for each tap it has per day.
- Maple sap is a colorless liquid with a light, sweet taste. Through boiling, the maple taste and amber color are formed. It takes between 30 to 40 gallons of sap to make one gallon of syrup.

MAPLE GRADES: A

- Light Amber or Fancy Grade has a mild maple taste and is made early in the season. This is considered best for fine maple candy.
- Medium Amber has a little more maple flavor and is made about mid-season.
- · Dark Amber, although slightly darker and with a stronger maple flavor, is fast becoming a favored table

MIK-RAN'S SUGARHOUSE AND SPECIALTY SHOP, LLC

Randall E. King, Sr. & Family 86 Stetson Rd., Brooklyn, CT 06234 860-774-7926

Free demonstration in February and March, weekends 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Specialty Shop with our maple products, pure maple syrup, maple candy, maple butter, maple peanut brittle and many more maple products and beautiful gifts. Shop open weekends 10-4 year round.

NORMAN'S SUGARHOUSE

Richard and Avis Norman 387 County Rd., Woodstock, CT 06281 860-974-1235 Fax 860-974-0496 e-mail: r.norman@snet.net

Maple Syrup year round. Wholesale and Retail. Maple Candy and Maple Cream available. Maple Sugaring Equipment and Supplies. Visitors welcome. Please call ahead.

RIVER'S EDGE SUGAR HOUSE

The Proulx Family 326 Mansfield Rd. (Rt 89), Ashford, CT 06278 860-429-1510

e-mail: mapleone@prodigy.net www.riversedgesugarhouse.com

Come visit our family run sugarhouse located in a rustic setting just 1.5 miles south of Rt. 44. We are open year round. Visitors may watch syrup being made during February and March, Groups are welcome, Maple Syrup, Maple Candy, Maple Cream, Maple Jelly and Honey are available. Please stop in or call ahead.

SWEET SUE'S SUGAR SHACK

Doug Langer & Family 932 Thompson Rd., Thompson, CT 06277 860-923-9000 Open house weekend March 18th and 19th

Maple Syrup year round. Maple Candy, Maple Cream during the season. Please call ahead.

The Sweetest Season of the Year

The first Connecticut harvest starts when the snow is still on the ground and the nip in the air. Plumes of fragrant steam and wood smoke from a sugarhouse's stack tell you it is the time for maple sugaring! The months of February and March are prime time for our state's sugarmakers as more than 200 sugar-makers produce the finest tasting maple syrup in the country. Freezing nights and warm days cause the maple sap to run.

American Indians taught colonial settlers the simple process of boiling tree sap into syrup and this industry has flourished to this day. The process involves tapping into a sugar maple tree with a spout and the sap that flows out is collected in buckets or runs through a system of plastic tubing into collection bins. This sap is collected and poured into an evaporator, usually wood fired, which boils off the water and leaves sweet maple syrup. Boiling the syrup even further produces maple candy.

Use this guide to find Connecticut producers that are open to the public. Enjoy a great day trip for you and your family. A fun learning experience is a visit to a Connecticut sugarhouse, watching and then tasting the sweet treats supplied to us courtesy of the state's Maple Syrup Producers and the maple tree. So, as you drive along our scenic country roads, when you see the traditional covered buckets or more modern tubing running from maple tree to maple tree, plan a visit to a CT Grown sugarhouse to sample the pure maple syrup, maple candy and other delightful items that they have to offer!

For more information, please call the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, Marketing Division, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106, (860) 713-2503. Please call ahead to confirm the hours of operation.

F. Philip Prelli Commissioner Connecticut Department of Agriculture

